

Application. No. 09/912,134

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A method for operating a CAN communication line whilst detecting a ground level shift on said communication line, through storing a data element indicative for such shift,

characterized by comparing a current line voltage level to a standard level, and feeding a thresholded version of the comparison to a storage element that is triggered by a local transmission indicator signal for then outputting a ground shift sample bit from said storage element;

wherein the storage element has its output retrocoupled to its input through a reception indicator signal.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim ~~[[2]]~~ 1, wherein said retrocoupling is through a multiplexer that whilst non-retrocoupling feeds said transmission indicator signal.

4. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein said storage element is edge-triggered.

5. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 1, for use in a bus organization that has multiple transmission stations connected thereto.

6. (Currently Amended) A station arranged for implementing a method ~~as claimed in~~

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~~claim 4~~ for operating a CAN communication line and comprising a ground level shift detecting means fed by said communication line, that feeds a data element for storing an indication for such shift,

~~characterized by further~~ comprising a comparing means for comparing a current line voltage level to a standard level, and a feed means for feeding a thresholded output of the comparison to a storage element that has a trigger control input fed by a local transmission indicator signal and an output means for then outputting a ground shift sample bit from said storage element;

wherein the storage element has its output retrocoupled to its input through a reception indicator signal.

7. (Original) A station-and-line system comprising a station as claimed in claim 6.

8. (Cancelled)

9. (New) A method of operating a CAN communication line, comprising:

comparing a first CAN bus line having a first voltage thereon, to a ground level;
generating a first signal, where the first signal is a logic "1" if the difference between the first CAN bus line and the ground level is less than a first voltage; and the first signal is a logic "0"; if the difference between the first CAN bus line and the ground level is greater than the first voltage;

selecting the first signal as an input signal to an edge-triggered flip-flop if a receive data signal is in a first one of two states, and selecting an output signal of the

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edge-triggered flip-flop as an input signal to the edge-triggered flip-flop if the receive data signal is in a second one of two states; and

clocking the edge-triggered flip-flop when a transmit data signal changes state.

10. (New) The method of Claim 9, wherein the first voltage is -1.2 volts.